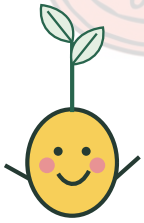
Soil Layers in a Jar

Watch a soil and water mixture change as particles settle.



Little growers, big discoveries

10 MIN + CHECKS | SOIL AND SETTLING | AGES 5+ WITH AN ADULT

Grab your kit

A clear plastic jar with a secure lid, garden soil checked by an adult, water, a spoon, paper and a pencil.

Your discovery mission

1. Remove stones, roots and large leaf pieces. Fill about one quarter of the jar with soil.
2. Add water until the jar is about three quarters full. Secure the lid and ask an adult to check it before gently shaking.
3. Put the jar somewhere steady. Look after ten minutes, one hour and the next day without moving it.
4. Draw what you see each time. Mark any layers, cloudy water or floating pieces. Some soils may not make clear layers.

What did you discover?

After ten minutes: _____
The next day: _____

Draw your discovery

Let’s wonder...

What settled quickly and what stayed in the water longer? What might make particles settle differently?

NEXT ADVENTURE

Try a second soil sample in a matching jar. Compare the patterns rather than treating them as exact soil measurements.

Use a plastic jar for children. Keep it sealed during observations, do not drink the water and wash hands afterwards.